KUDZU/PUERARIA MONTANA/KILLZU

Kudzu [spreads](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plant_propagation) by [vegetative reproduction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vegetative_reproduction) via [stolons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stolon" \o "Stolon) (runners) that [root](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Root) at the [nodes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Node_(botany)) to form new plants and by [rhizomes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhizome). Kudzu will also spread by [seeds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seed), which are contained in pods and mature in the autumn, although this is rare. One or two viable seeds are produced per cluster of pods. The hard-coated seeds can remain viable for several years, and will successfully germinate only when soil is persistently soggy for five to seven days, with temperatures above 20 °C (68 °F). Once germinated, saplings must be kept in a well-drained medium that retains high moisture. During this stage of growth, it is critical for kudzu to receive as much sunlight as possible. Kudzu saplings are sensitive to mechanical disturbance, and are damaged by chemical fertilizers. They do not tolerate long periods of shade, or high water tables

CRIMES-Kudzu competes with native flora for light, and acts to block their access to this vital resource by growing over them and shading them with its leaves. Native plants may then die as a result.

### REWARD-Crown removal, Mowing, Grazing, Fire, Herbicide, Fungi

It is a seasonal climbing plant, growing high where suitable surfaces ([trees](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tree), [cliffs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cliff), [walls](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wall)) are available, and also growing as ground cover where there are no vertical surfaces. It is a [perennial](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perennial_plant) vine with tuberous roots and rope-like, dark brown stems to 20 m (65 ft) long. It grow up to 20 m per year and can achieve a growth height of 30 m. It has markedly hairy herbaceous stems. *Pueraria montana* is native to [Southeast Asia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia), primarily [subtropical](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subtropics) and [temperate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temperateness) regions of [China](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/China), [Japan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japan), and [Korea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Korea), with [trifoliate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leaf_shape) leaves composed of three [leaflets](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leaflet). Each leaflet is large and [ovate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oval) with two to three lobes each and hair on the underside.

